

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT**  
**ROUTING SLIP**

TO:

		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		X		
2	DDCI		X		
3	EXDIR		X		
4	D/ICS				
5	DDI				
6	DDA		X		
7	DDO		X		
8	DDS&T				
9	Chm/NIC				
10	GC				
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/OLL	X			
14	D/PAO				
15	VC/NIC				
16	D/PERS		X		
17	C/History Staff		X		
18	D/OIS/DA		X		
19					
20					
21					
22					
SUSPENSE		13 Aug 85 <small>Date</small>			

## Remarks

To 13: Please have appropriate response for DCI signature (note that DCI may not be proper source of all info sought).

Executive Secretary

6 Aug 85

Date

3637 (10-81)

STAT

MEMBER OF CONGRESS  
12TH DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS



85-2821

SUITE 1035  
LONGWORTH BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
202/225-3711

WAYS AND MEANS  
COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEES:

TRADE

SOCIAL SECURITY

REPUBLICAN STUDY COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

SUITE 101  
1450 SOUTH NEW WILKE ROAD  
ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, IL 60005  
312/394-0790

56 NORTH WILLIAMS STREET  
CRYSTAL LAKE, IL 60014  
815/459-3399  
312/223-3030

ROBERT C. COLEMAN  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

August 1, 1985

85-2744

Honorable William J. Casey, Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, DC 20505

60-4

Dear Mr. Casey:

On March 28, 1948, based on the recommendation of General Eisenhower, President Harry Truman awarded the Legion of Merit in the degree of Chief Commander to General Draza Mihailovich of Yugoslavia for leading important resistance forces against the enemy which occupied Yugoslavia during World War II. Furthermore, despite the fact that the Allies had withdrawn support of Mihailovich in favor of supporting Tito and his communists, General Mihailovich and his forces were responsible for the rescue of over 500 American airmen shot down over Yugoslavia in WWII. Recently declassified OSS reports conclusively verify that the Allies decision to abandon Mihailovich was the result of an extensive disinformation campaign spearheaded by Soviet-recruited spies within the British military.

What I would like to know is the following:

1. What was the basis of General Eisenhower's recommendation that the Legion of Merit be awarded to General Mihailovich?
2. In light of the fact that the Allies abandoned Mihailovich, why did President Truman believe it was necessary to bestow upon him the highest award the U.S. can give to any foreigner?
3. Why was the U.S. State Department successful in keeping this commendation classified until congressional pressure forced its declassification in 1968?

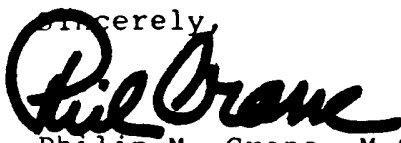
In reference to these questions, I would like a member of your staff to brief me on those considerations that played into what appears to be a most inconsistent policy decision. Finally, if there is any remaining classified information

Honorable William Casey  
August 1, 1985  
Page Two

concerning the case of General Mihailovich, I would like it to be made available for my review. Please have your staff contact Jeff Crane at 225-3711 to make any necessary arrangements.

Thank you for your assistance. I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Phil Crane". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font. The first part of the signature is circled.

Philip M. Crane, M.C.

PMC/jc